



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES



2009
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY
APPROVED STROKE CENTER STANDARDS

PURPOSE:

Establish the minimum standards for Receiving Hospitals who wish to accept acute stroke patients from approved ALS and BLS providers within the Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System.

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1255, 1255.5, 1256, 1797.220, 1797.222, 1798, 1798.50, 1798.163, 1799.202 et seq.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Sections 10727, 10728, 42400 et seq., 100147, 100172, 100175

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, Disease Specific Care, Primary Stroke Center.

DEFINITIONS:

**Approved
Stroke**

Center (ASC): A 9-1-1 receiving hospital that has met the standards of a Primary Stroke Center as defined by the Joint Commission and has been approved as a Stroke Center by the Los Angeles (LA) County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency.

POLICY:

- A. Approved Stroke Centers shall be licensed as a general acute care hospital with a basic emergency department permit as defined by the State Department of Health Services and meet the standards of a Primary Stroke Center as defined by the Joint Commission.
- B. Application Process:
 - 1. A hospital that wishes to become an Approved Stroke Center must submit a letter of interest no later than 60 days prior to the desired date of designation as an Approved Stroke Center by the EMS Agency.

2. The request is to include documentation demonstrating that the hospital meets the standards of a Primary Stroke Center as defined by the Joint Commission.
3. The request must be signed by the hospital Stroke Program Director and the Chief Executive or Chief Operations Officer.

C. Approval

1. The ASC will be approved after satisfactory review of application documentation and a site survey, when deemed necessary, by the Los Angeles County EMS Agency Medical Director or their designee.
2. The ASC will be re-approved after a satisfactory Los Angeles County EMS Agency review every two years or sooner if deemed necessary. This review may include a site survey by an independent review team.
3. The ASC Medical Director shall submit a written ninety (90) calendar day notice to the EMS Agency prior to the discontinuation of ASC services.